

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JIDDA 04638 240956Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 EUR-12 /032 W  
-----038178 241756Z /42

R 240754Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
TO USDOC WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BERN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
SECSTATE WASHDC 2451  
USLO RIYADH

UNCLAS JIDDA 4638

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BTIO, BENC, BBAK, SA  
SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECT: RIYADH UNIVERSITY

1. THE RIYADH UNIVERSITY PROJECT IS NOW ESTIMATED TO COST \$8,000 MILLION. CONTRACTS ALREADY MADE AND ABOUT TO BE AWARDED WERE REVIEWED IN SAUDI BUSINESS JUNE 15-21 EDITION. THE INFORMATION IS PRESENTED FOR USDOC BACKGROUND USE AS WELL AS FOR OPPORTUNITIES FOR US BUSINESS WITH SUPPLY AND SUB-CONTRACT POTENTIALS.

2. SEGMENTS OF THIS MAJOR PROJECT ALREADY AWARDED INCLUDE:  
A. THE MASTER PLAN FOR THE UNIVERSITY COMPLEX EXECUTED BY THE HOK PLUS 4 CONSORTIUM HEADED BY HELLMUTH, OBATA AND HASSALBAUM OF ST., LOUIS, MO.,  
B. MANUFACTURE AND SUPPLY OF PREFABRICATED CONCRETE ELEMENTS FOR THE UNIVERSITY BY A GERMAN-SWISS CONSORTIUM LED BY ED. ZUBLIN A.G. OF STUTTGART; WAYSS & FREITAG KG. FRANKFURT, AND THOSTI BAU AG, AUGSBURG ALL GERMAN, PLUS FOLLOWING SWISS FIRMS: UNIVERSAL PENTA OF ZURICH, UNIVERSAL ENGINEERING OF BERN, CONRAD ZSHOKKE OF GENEVA,  
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AND PREISWERK OF BASEL.

3. THE NEXT SEGMENT OF THE PROJECT, NOW CONSIDERED ONE OF THE LARGEST CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS OF ITS KIND WITH A CURRENT TOTAL COST ESTIMATE OF OVER \$8,000 MILLION, IS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ACADEMIC BUILDINGS, LOW BID FOR THIS HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN SUBMITTED BY AN AMERICAN-

FRENCH CONSORTIUM, BLOUNT INTERNATIONAL OF MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, AND BOUGUES OF FRANCE, RESPECTIVELY, FOR \$3,400 MILLION. THE WORK WILL COMPRISE CONSTRUCTION OF 16 MAJOR BUILDINGS AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF ANCILLARY BUILDINGS WITH A TOTAL FLOOR SPACE OF 12 MILLION SQUARE FEET. THE AWARD HAS BEEN MADE YET BUT IS EXPECTED SOON.

4. MAJOR CONSTRUCTION FOR THE RIYADH UNIVERSITY PROJECT WILL INCLUDE: 11 CLASSROOM BUILDINGS; A 4 MILLION VOLUME LIBRARY BUILDING, FOUR ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS, A MOSQUE WITH A CAPACITY OF 9000 PERSONS, A STUDENT CENTER WITH A 30-BED CLINIC AND 100 GUEST ROOMS, A TWIN HALL AUDITORIUM, A MUSEUM AND SPORTS FACILITIES BUILT AROUND A 20,000 SEAT OLYMPIC-SIZE STADIUM. BY ANY STANDARD, THE RIYADH UNIVERSITY PROJECT IS DEVELOPING INTO A MAJOR EFFORT WHICH IS PLANNED TO ACCOMMODATE OVER 21, 000 STUDENTS.

5. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ON THIS PROJECT AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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